RF 128.1116USN 11/10/04

- 3 -

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below:

- 1. (Currently amended) A method for the production of cellulose pulp, comprising:

 in which providing an amount of wood raw material that principally consists of softwood, preferably in the form of chopped wood chips, is treated in several stages in various treatment steps,
- whereby one of the stages comprises cooking the material in an alkali cooking fluid, with the aim of obtaining improved quality with respect to tensile strength and of obtaining higher yield, and
- c h a r-a-c-t-e-r-i-s-c-d by the controlled addition of in a controlled manner adding hardwood raw material in the form-of hardwood-at in an amount corresponding to 1-20% of the amount of softwood, preferably 3-15%, and more preferably at least 5%.
- 20 2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, e h a racter is e d in that the said wherein the hardwood is added and mixed with the said softwood in the form of that is provided as wood chips.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, e h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the said wherein the mixing takes place in a chip bin.
- 4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, e h
 a racterised in that the said wherein the hardwood
 is added to and mixed with the said softwood, in the form of
 the hardwood is provided as a finely divided fraction, whereby
 the said the finely divided fraction preferably is added after
 an impregnation stage.

RF 128.1116UBN 11/10/04

5

20

25

30

- 5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4, e-h a racterised in that wherein the cooking takes place continuously, and that the said the finely divided fraction is added at the a top of the a continuous digester at the input, such that mixing is achieved before entry to a first cooking zone.
- 6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4, e h

 a r a c t e r i s e d in that wherein the cooking takes place
 continuously and that the said the finely divided fraction is
 added to the a continuous digester by means of at least one
 fluid flow that adds and/or recirculates fluid to a cooking
 zone, such that mixing is achieved after entry to a first

 cooking zone.
 - 7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6r c has a racter is ed in that wherein at least parts of the said finely divided fraction are added by means of a flow of white liquor addition.
 - 8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6 or 7, c h a r a c t c r i s c d in that the said wherein the flow is delivered at the an upper part of the digester, preferably closer to the top of the digester than to its midsection.
 - 9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, character is ed in that the said wherein the hardwood is added to and mixed with the said softwood in the form of the hardwood is provided as logs, after which the wood raw material is converted to chips.
- 10. (Currently amended) The method according to any one of the preceding claims, e h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the said claim 1 wherein the hardwood is pre-treated with alkali

- 5 **-**

RF 128.1116USN 11/10/04

before it the hardwood is added to and mixed with the softwood.

- 11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10, e

 haracterised in that the said wherein the
 pre-treatment takes place at an elevated temperature,
 preferably at a temperature of 80-160°C, and more preferably
 100-140°C.
- 12. (Currently amended) A cooking system for the production of cellulose pulp, in which a wood raw material that primarily consists of softwood is treated in several stages, comprising:
 - a raw material preparation unit (1),
- a raw material storage (10; 7) being downstream of the raw material preparation unit, and a cooking plant (15, 19) being downstream of the raw material storage, and characterised by a control system (6) being
- upstream of the raw material preparation unit, the control system regulating an inflow of hardwood and softwood into the raw material preparation unit so that an outflow of cellulose pulp from an outlet of a digester contains 1-20% of hardwood fibers and 80-99% of softwood fibers.
- that regulates a controlled addition of wood-raw material in the form of hardwood, such that the cellulose pulp produced at the outlet from the digester (19) will-contain 1-20% of hardwood fibres and 80-99% of softwood fibres.
- 13. (Currently amended) The cooking system for the production of cellulose pulp according to claim 12, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the said according to claim 12 wherein the control system (6) is arranged to control the input inflow to the said raw material preparation
- unit (1), such that the fibre so that fiber raw materials

- 6 -

RF 128.1116U3N 11/10/04

stored in the raw material storage (10) contains 1-20% hardwood and 80-99% softwood.

- 14. (Currently amended) The cooking system for the production of cellulose pulp according to claim 12, 5 c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the said wherein the raw materials storage (10; 7) comprises has at least two separate storage spaces (10, 7; 1A', 1B') - whereby at least one is intended for hardwood raw material and at least one other is 10 intended for softwood raw material, and in that the said so that one storage space is for hardwood raw material and one storage space is for softwood raw material, the control system (6) is in operative engagement with the raw material preparation unit and regulates the a flow from the said 15 storage spaces such that 1-20% controlled addition of hardwood takes place before and/or during the a cooking stage.
- of callulose pulp according to claim 14,

 characterised in that the said wherein the
 cooking system has comprises a continuous cooking plant (15,
 19), whereby means (4, 10; 5, 10) are arranged that ensure
 that the said for ensuring that the flow of hardwood is
 delivered to a chip chute (11).
- 16. (Currently amended) The cooking system for the production of sellulose pulp according to claim 14, c h a r a c t o r i s e d in that the said wherein the cooking system has comprises a continuous cooking plant (15, 19), whereby means (9) are arranged that ensure that the said for ensuring that the flow of hardwood is delivered at the input, preferably at the a top (18), of the digester (19).

RF 128.111603N 11/10/04

5

- 7 -

17. (Currently amended) The cooking system for the production of cellulose pulp according to claim 14, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the said wherein the cooking system has comprises a continuous cooking plant (15, 19), whereby means (8) are arranged that ensure for ensuring that the said flow of hardwood is delivered to a fluid line (21) arranged at the digester (19).